





















BUT THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND MEN, AND RATS OFT GO ASTRAY. -- FOR JUST OUTSIDE, THE BIG EARS OF A LITTLE CHINESE LISTEN INTENTLY---



FIRST, YOU WILL BE PROMOTED TO RANK OF MAJOR! SECOND, WE GIVE YOU FANTASTIC NAME, LIKE REMARKABLE PEOPLE IN AMERICAN COMIC BOOKS! THIRD, YOU WEAR FANCY BULLET-PROOF COSTUME, AND LAST, BUT NOT LEAST, YOU FLY NEW TYPE DOUBLE ARMORED PLANE, NOW BEING CONSTRUCTED!





IS WONDERFUL IDEA, -- THIS
USELESS ONE IS MOST GRATEFUL
FOR EXTREME HONOR! ALL
JAPANESE WILL THRILL TO
BRAVERY OF LIEUT. YAHUCHI!--I MEAN "MAJOR ZERO!-"THE SUPER-FLYER"!

ONE WEEK HENCE,
COSTUME AND
PLANE WILL BE
READY!









EALIZING THAT IF HE IS KILLED, HIS VALUABLE

INFORMATION WILL BE LOST, -- THE LITTLE BOY

SUDDENLY SWINGS HIS BROOM AT THE OFFICER. IN













ME IMPORTANT!

OH, YES, ME YERY

IMPORTANT! -- YOU

SEE, WHEN ME TELL

YOU WHAT ME KNOW!



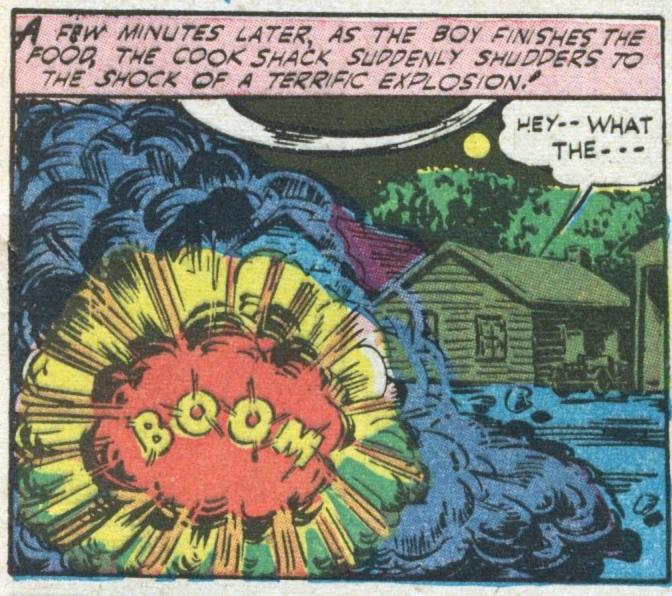
HEY-- YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE
ALL IN!-- I'LL BET YOU
HAVEN'T EATEN FOR A WEEK!
COME ON, LET'S SEE IF
THE COOK CAN SCARE UP
A BITE!





PLEASE, CAPTAIN

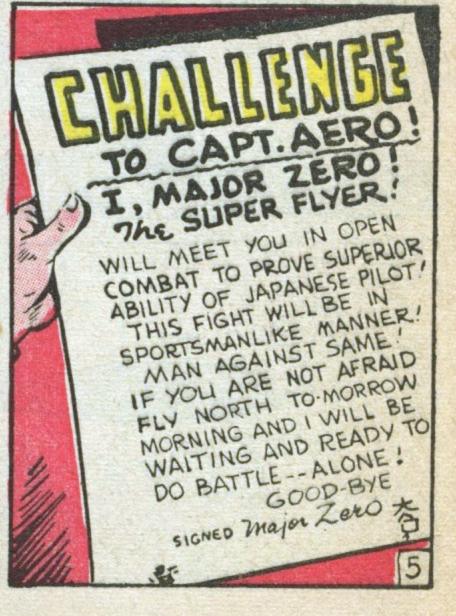
















I'VE GOT TOO, -- THE JAPS
WILL THINK I'M AFRAID, IF
I DON'T, AND I GUESS YOU
REALIZE WHAT A BOOST THAT
WOULD BE FOR THEIR MORALE!
--- GOOD NIGHT SKIPPER!
C'MON CHOP SUEY! YOU CAN BUNK
AT MY PLACE TONIGHT!





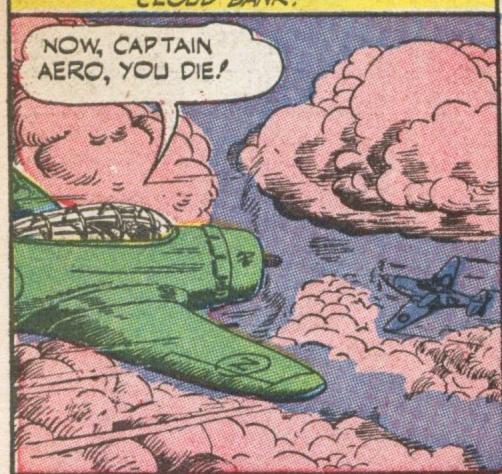










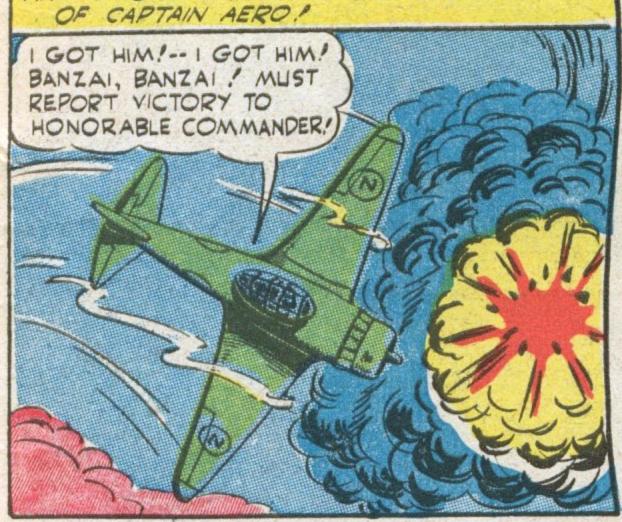


IT IS MAJOR ZERO! --AND HE SHOUTS WITH GLEE
AS AERO'S SHIP LINES UP
SQUARE, IN HIS SIGHTS!







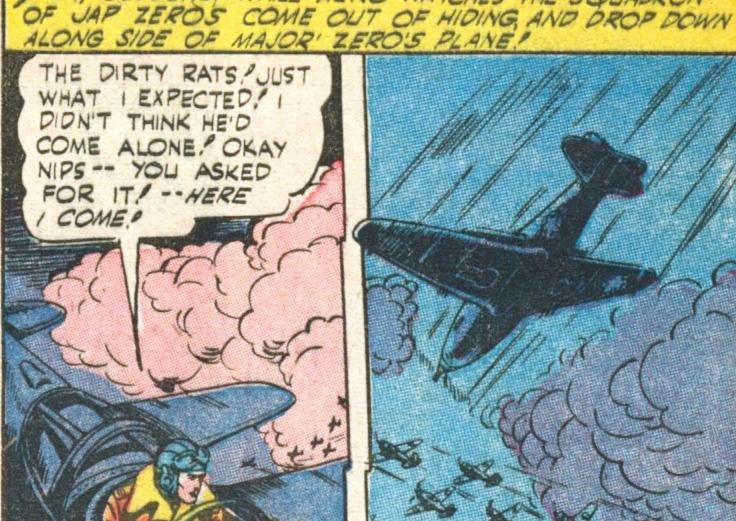






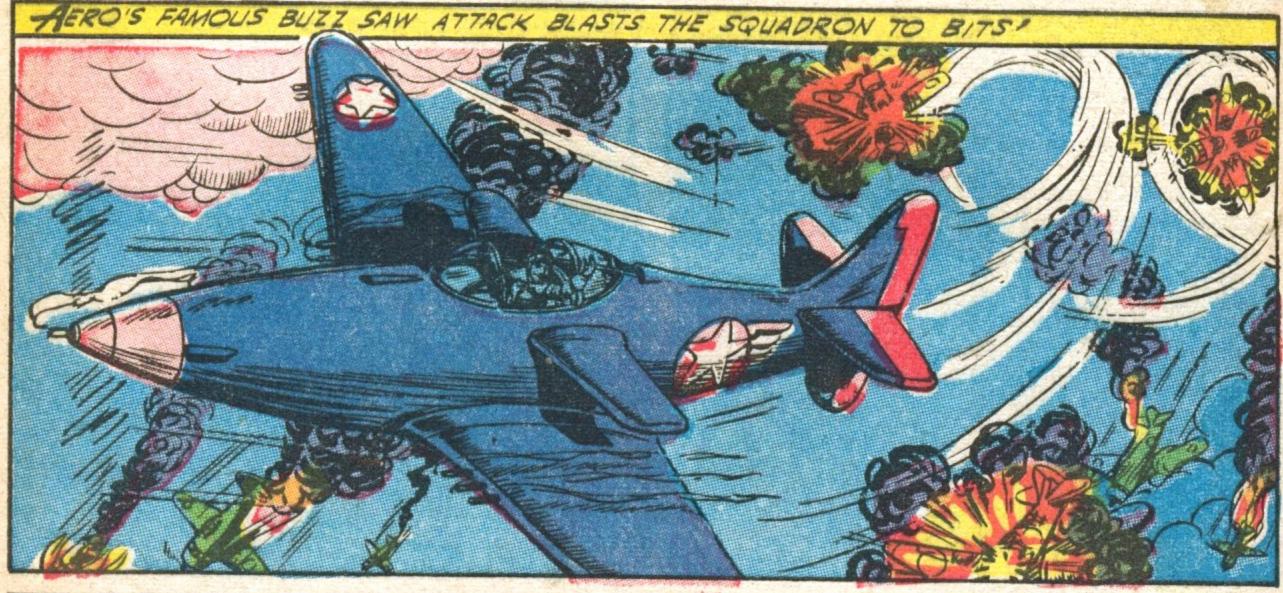








HEN, SUDDENLY WHILE AERO WATCHES THE SQUADRON







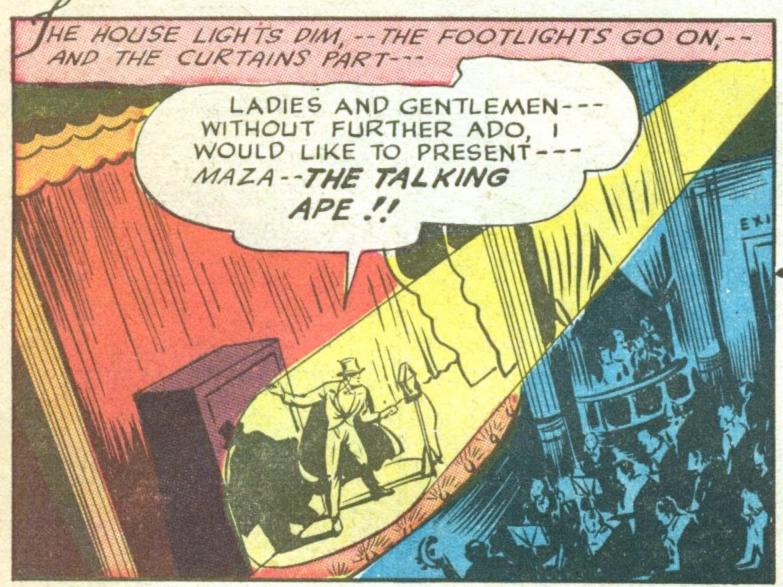






NIGHT, WE FIND OUR TWO FRIENDS. -SEATED IN THE VAST THEATRE AWAITING THE APPEARANCE OF COUNT ZOVA AND HIS TALKING APE !!





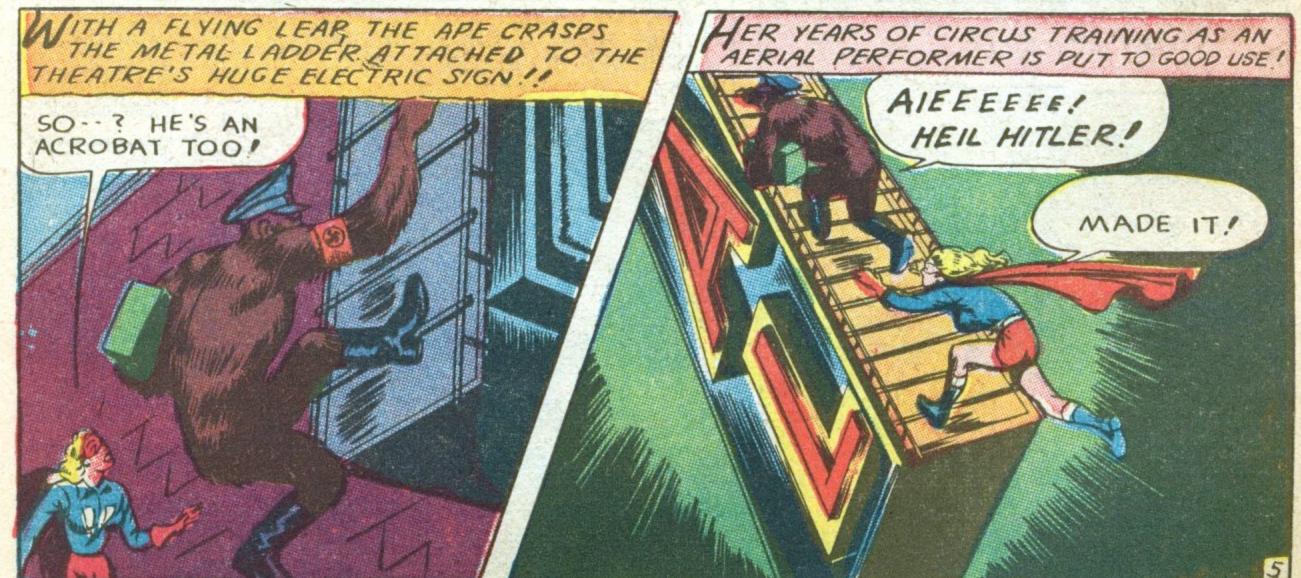










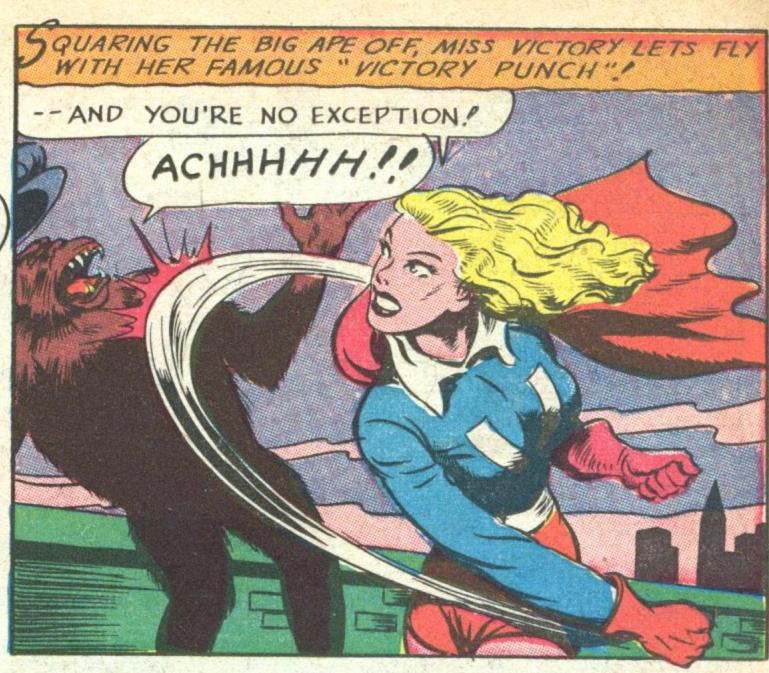














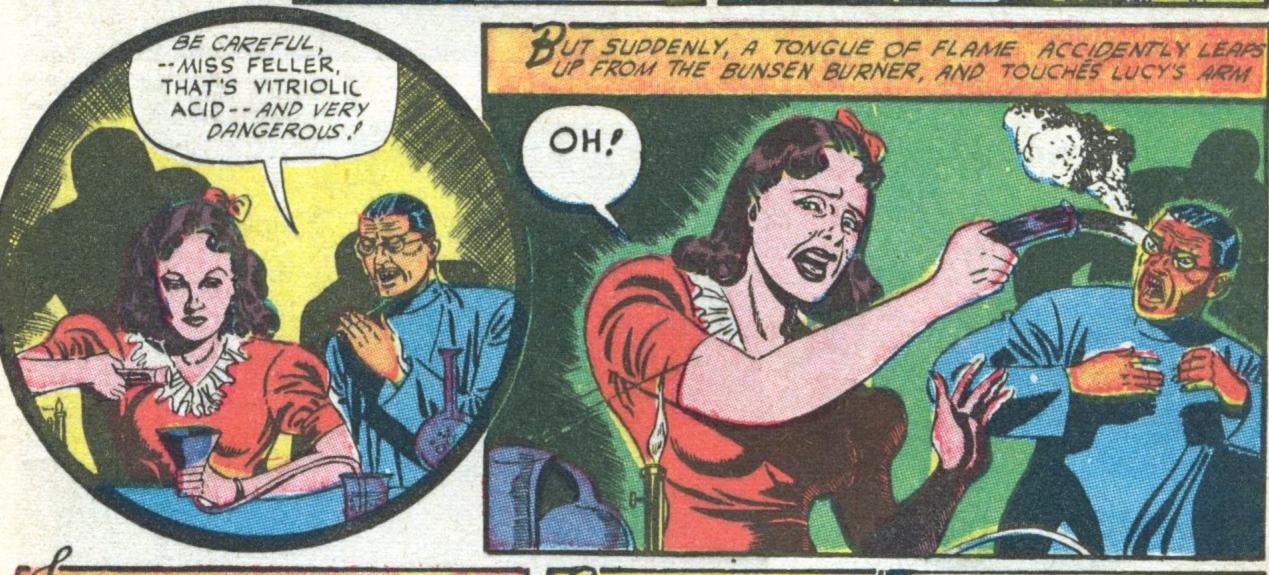




OUR STORY OPENS
SEVERAL YEARS
AGO WHEN THE
UNITED STATES AND
JAPAN, WERE ON
FRIENDLY TERMS!
-- AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF SIDHAM, IN MONTANA,
PROFESSOR YUKI MARA,
PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS
AND CHEMISTRY IS
ABOUT TO ENTER HIS
CLASS ROOM FOR THE
USUAL DAYS ACTIVITIES













I FEEL SO TERRIBLE ABOUT



JIS MIND, NOW A COMPLETELY
HATE FILLED SPONGE-THINKS OF ONLY
ONE THING --- REVENGE!

THAT I WILL AVENGE THIS HORRIBLE MIS-FORTUNE THAT HAS COME TO ME; SOME DAY WHEN THE EMBLEM OF THE RISING SUN FLIES OVER AMERICAN SOIL ?!



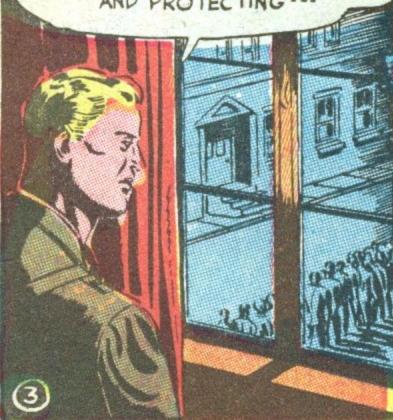
LREADY -- THE RUMBLINGS OF WAR OF WERE BEGINNING TO BE HEARD !--



STEPPED FORWARD TO ANSWER THE CALL!

NO, CAPTAIN PETER HALL, -LOOKING OUT AT SCENES
LIKE THIS EACH DAY, REFLECTS TO
HIMSELF!

MORE MEN! !-- MEN WHO WILL
BE KILLED! -- THE MEDICAL
PROFESSION MUST HAVE A
GUIDING SPIRIT, WATCHFUL,
AND PROTECTING ---



THUS WAS BORN A MIGHT)
CHARACTER - - DESTINED
TO FLING A CHALLENGE AT
THE MASTERS OF UNCIVILIZED MARFARE! - THE
MOOMITABLE RED CROSS!

N AMERICA

MILLIONS

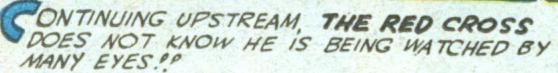


OFF THE COAST OF LAVA, CAPTAIN PETER HALL SETS UP QUARTERS !!

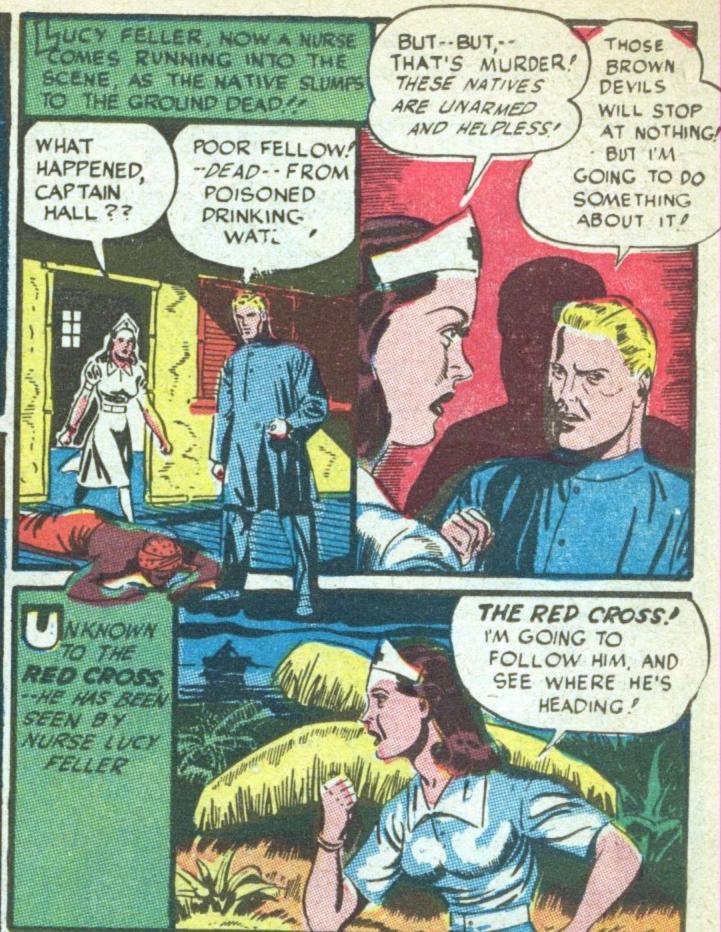








































MAKING THE JOURNEY IN SAFETY, THE

RED CROSS TAKES . LEAVE OF THE

















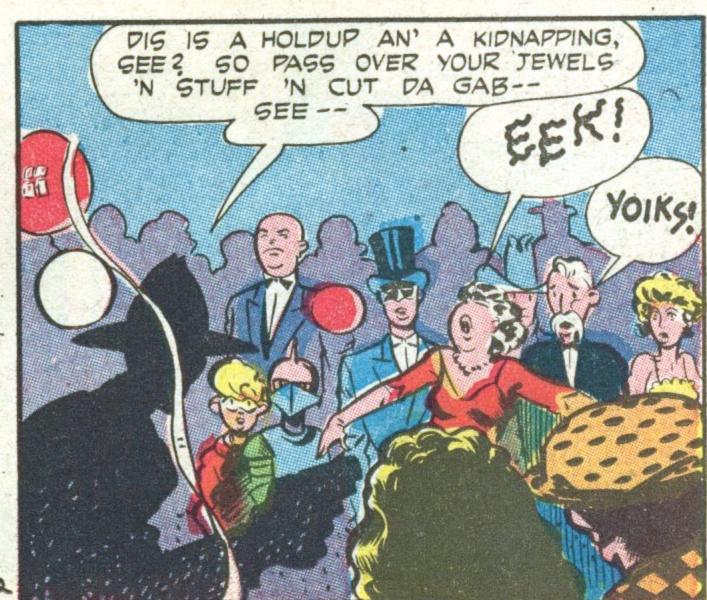














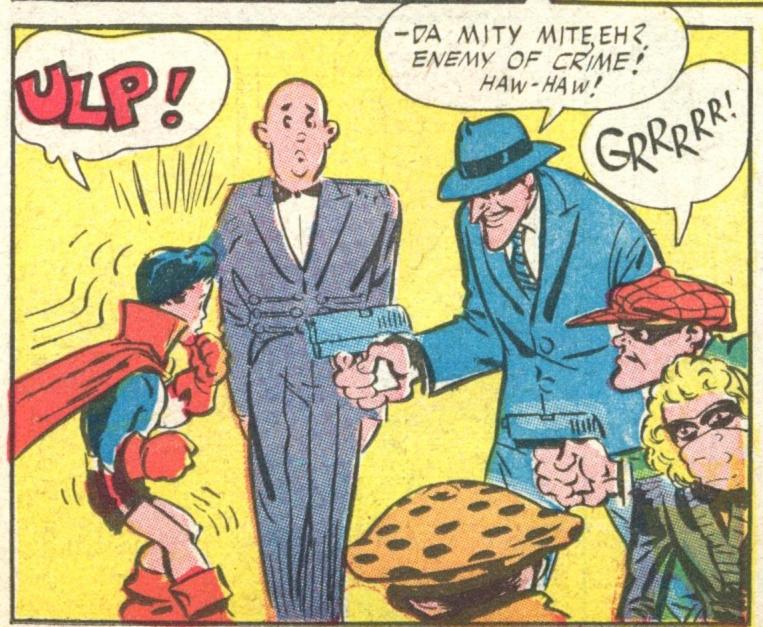




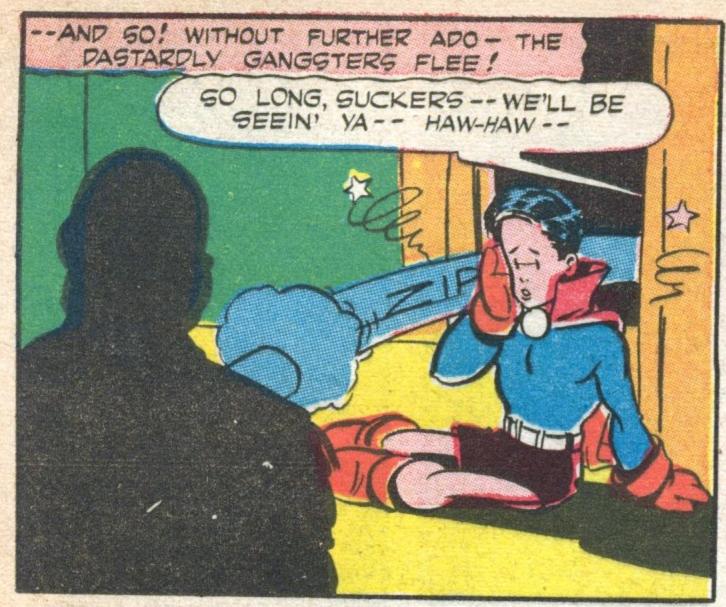
OPEN DA DOOR, JERK!





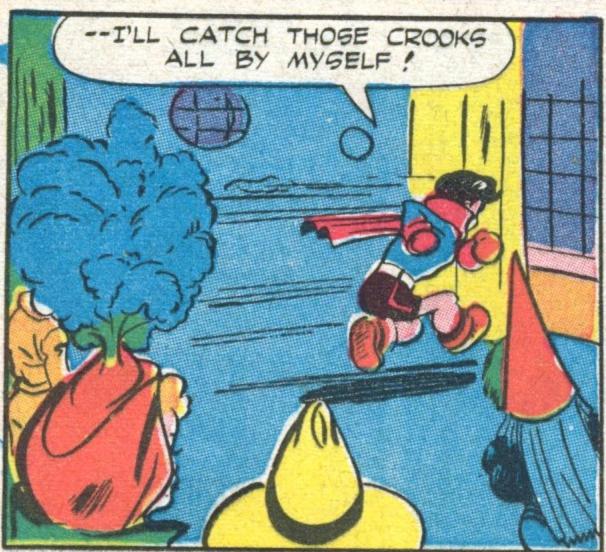


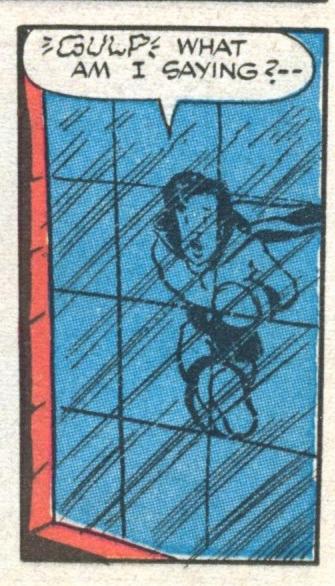


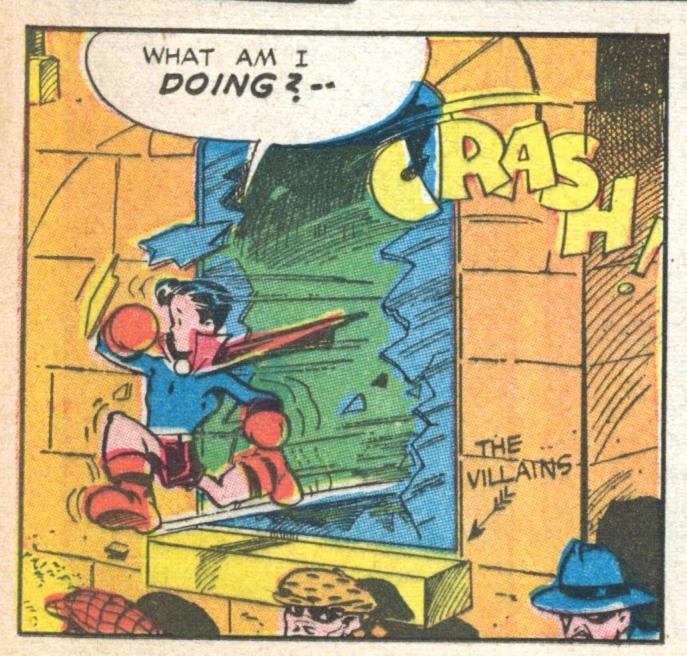


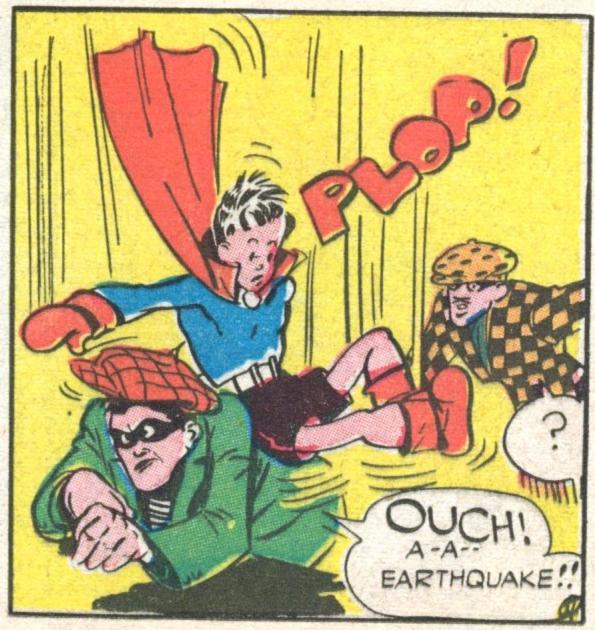


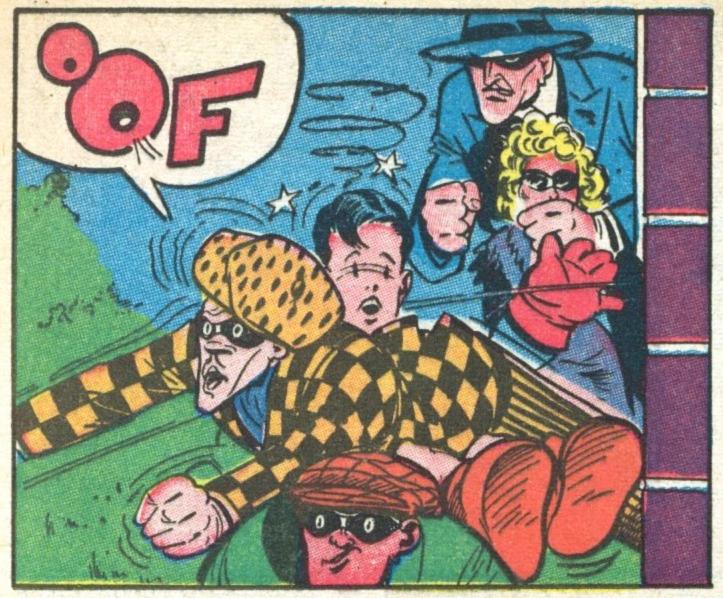






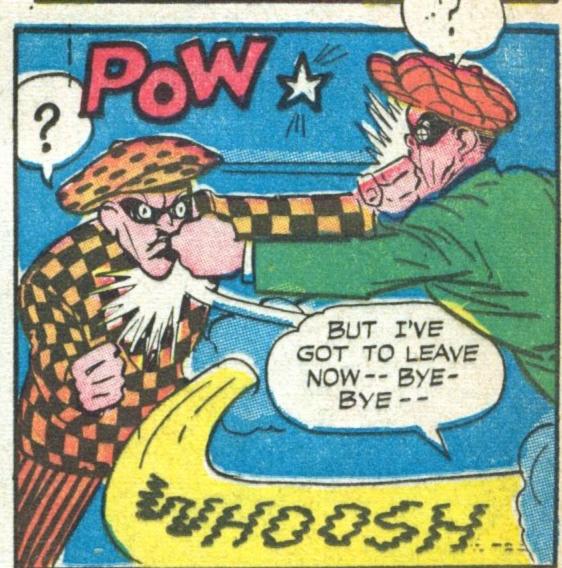








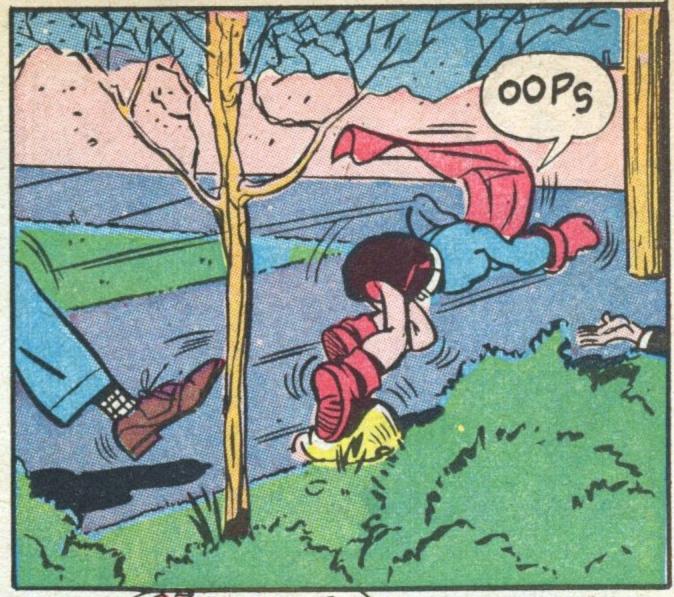






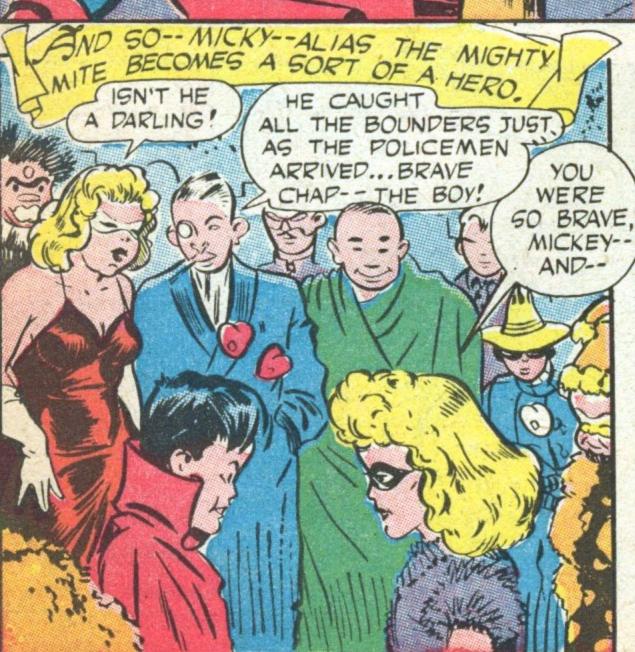
















DROPPING HIM
A LINE--TODAY?

ET-ES-GO MAGAZINES 220 W.42 ND. ST., NEW YORK, N.Y.



"Itsie'?" echoed tail gunner Sam Floss.
"Boy, oh, boy—wait'll the rest of the bunch hears we've got a canary—who answers to the name of 'Itsie'!"

"Wait a minute, fellows," interrupted Lieutenant Williams, "are we sports, or are we—? We left it up to Bill to pick up a mascot when he went to Naples. He used his own judgment. So we're stuck with the bird—"

The crew shook their heads sadly.

"We got the bird all right," one of them said. The following night, Itsie went on her first bombing mission, and behaved like a veteran. Above the noise of machine gun fire, and deadly flak could be heard her brave little chirping, as she hopped from side to side in the little cage. At dawn, winging home, the Sally-B had seven more Swastika emblems to put on her fuselage.

Gunner Bill Crowley said that Itsie was good luck. Never had the Sally-B come out of a foray, with so many planes to her credit, and

so little damage to herself.

The rest of the crew shrugged. Most of them yawned, and said they were ready for bed. luck or no luck.

Several nights later, the Sally-B was again wheeled out for another bombing mission. As the huge plane cleared the runway, and climbed into the dark night, Lieutenant Williams looked at the canary with one raised eyebrow and remarked, "Well, Itsie, old kid—let's see how that luck business works out tonight."

Itsie chirped back, entirely unconcerned with the sarcasm.

Then trouble began to happen. As if some unkind fate had things in store for the Sally-B. two of the engines sputtered, and went dead.

The crew looked at each other in amazement! THIS type of bad luck had NEVER been encountered before. One engine, yes—but TWO—it seemed as though the Sally-B was going to make a date with destiny.

They all looked at Itsie, happily chirping in

her cage.

"It's the bird," said Lieutenant Williams. "I knew it—I could feel it. We've got to land this baby in one piece—let's go—!"

Below them spread a broad, flat terrain, devoid of trees or houses. "Thank heaven, for THAT, at least," muttered the Lieutenant.

They dropped flares, and he began the grim task of bringing the big helpless ship to a safe landing.

How it was done, is a saga among the boys at headquarters. And when finally the Sally-B was rolling along the hard Italian soil, with plenty of clearing ahead, the crew gave an audible sigh of relief.

"Just luck," was Lieutenant Williams' brief comment, when they looked at him admiringly. "Plain luck—but that bird's got to go—she'll never bring us anything but trouble."

Quickly the crew checked the motors. The crew chief reported to his commanding officer. "Minor trouble." he said. "Oil lines. Have it fixed in an hour."

Bill Crowley went in to see Itsie, while the rest of the crew not working on the engines, lolled around outside. It was a perfect night for bombing. The moonlight drenched the countryside with light as bright as day.

Bill stopped short as he saw the bird. She was hopping around the cage, chirping shrilly—much noisier, much more animated than usual. Somehow he thought that the little bird was trying to tell him something—something important.

He studied her nervous hoppings, and searched his brain. He felt as though the relationship between he and the bird was a living thing—he KNEW that Itsie was trying to tell him something.

Suddenly—he knew the answer!

GAS! POISON GAS!

He ran out shouting. In split seconds, the crew of the Sally-B had their masks on. and were waiting.

The gas came in a sticky wave from a Nazi experimental ship. Apparently they were using the terrain as a testing ground for spreading the fumes, and the Sally-B was right in the thick of it.

Her 50-50 guns brought down the Nazi gas laying plane. In an hour the Sally-B was in the air to resume her flight—with the big news of a Nazi scheme to use gas on helpless civilians.

The crew was very quiet. They instinctively felt that they were in a flying casket, not for themselves, but a little yellow feathered mite, who once chirped life, and sang all day—who now was lying still in death in her little bamboo cage.

So Itsie checked out—in a flying tomb fit for a noble eagle—with Lieutenant Williams' handkerchief over her cage, and grateful airmen as her pall-bearers, who felt privileged to wear the silver wings of courage.

"REFORMATION"

Les Bradley came back to the offices of the Criterion Newsreel after enlisting in the United States Army, and smiled broadly at Tessie Munroe, the red-headed, green-eyed switch-board operator.

"Well," he announced, "I'm IN—with a second lieutenant's commission, 'n everything! I'll show those uniformed crank-turners what a REAL newsreel camera-man is like!"

"Gee, Les," she gushed. "Gosh—you an officer in the Army—SWELL!"

They had a farewell party, several days later. Les was one of Criterion's best men, and his leaving meant a tremendous gap in the production staff.

Les made a little speech.

Of course Les was good—and he knew it and Les wouldn't hesitate in telling anyone who cared to listen how good he was behind the newsreel camera.

"I've been tossed around in earthquakes, shoved around in fires—covered the Japanese invasion of Manchuria—got mixed up in mobs and riots—and shot at by gangsters—so—what's a little scrap like this, but just another assignment—?"

For fifteen minutes, the Criterion staff listened to such an oration. They smiled. Les wasn't a braggart—his good-natured smile, and frank grey eyes were too sincere to be coupled with his ready tongue.

There were many handshakes and goodbyes. Tessie kissed him in front of everyone and brushed away a tear.

"Gosh, Les," she said. "You're going to look so CUTE in an officer's uniform—"

He saluted her. "Yep." he said. "The best man for the best job — that's me—"

Lieutenant Les Bradley was ushered into Major Grafton's office.

"Sit down, Bradley," he said, in a friendly tone, "I want to have a little talk with you—"

Les lit a cigarette, and began listening. The Major outlined a course of duties assigned to Lieutenant Bradley AFTER his sixty-day basic training period.

"Sixty days!" exclaimed Les. "What do I have to do THAT for? I'm supposed to be an officer—I'm an experienced newsreel cameraman!"

The Major nodded.

"True, Bradley," he said with the air of a man talking to a small child, "but THERE are certain advancements in air cinematography that we want to teach you OUR way!"

Les looked angry.

"Look Major," he said. "I quit a job to enlist in the Frmy. I'm supposed to be a top man in my profession. I've been in worse situations with modern equipment, so why do I have to spend two months running around like an ladien? I want ACTION—and plenty of it—I

can teach you a few things about newsreel stuff—" He banged his fist on the desk.

Major Grafton stood up. "The discussion is at an end, Bradley." he said curtly. "I'll see you in sixty days!"

He saw Major Grafton several times while in training. Once he had quite a discussion with his superior officer. He had learned from others that Major Grafton had been actively engaged in motion pictures several years BEFORE LES BRADLEY WAS BORN!

"I guess I've been wrong about what I used to think about Army photographers," he said to the Major. "I've learned more here in a month than I did in civilian life in years."

Major Grafton smiled.

"Your former job." he said, "was to record NEWS from a sensational or theatrical point of view. You risked your life many times, probably, to get some unusual or difficult shot. We don't want to do that in the Army. And we certainly don't want to expose men of your ability to unnecessary or foolhardy danger—what we want is an accurate RECORD of what happens with the best and safest equipment money can buy—"

Lieutenant Bradley saluted smartly.

"And you'll GET such a record," he said sincerely. "Our Army has the BEST photographic equipment in the WORLD."

It was a different Les Bradley that visited the offices of the Criterion Newsreel on his furlough. Tessie was the first to notice it.

"Why, Les," she said, "or should I say Lieutenant?—Army life has done wonders for you. Why, I've never seen you look so GOOD since I've known you—"

He smiled, his tanned, healthy face and clear eyes framed his officer's uniform to perfection.

"Thanks, Tessie," he said. "I'll return the compliment tonight—that is—if you'll have dinner with me—"

"Will I?" was all she said.

Later in the office of his one time boss, he smiled again as he heard words that filled his heart with pride.

"The Army has done plenty for you, Les," said his boss. "You left here one of the best men in the business—and now, looking at you, I'm convinced you're the BEST of the BEST—!"

"I know," said Les. "I've lost all my swagger. The Army didn't take it out of me, I took it out of myself. Their men and their equipment surpass everything in the field. It inspires you. It makes you want to learn—especially under lellows like Major Grafton—"

"Who's he?"

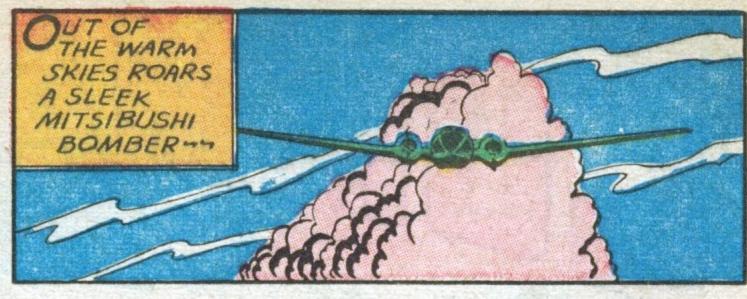
Les smiled. "Oh." he answered, "someone I started to teach the business to. But I gave it up fast—'cause I found out that he was teaching me."



CNCAMPED
NEAR THE
NATIVE QUARTERS
OF SHALNA'S
PARENTS-CORPORAL WALLY,
AND SERGEANT
BILL TANNER
ARE TAKING A
HARD-EARNED
REST WITH
THEIR DEVIL DOG
BUDDIES!!

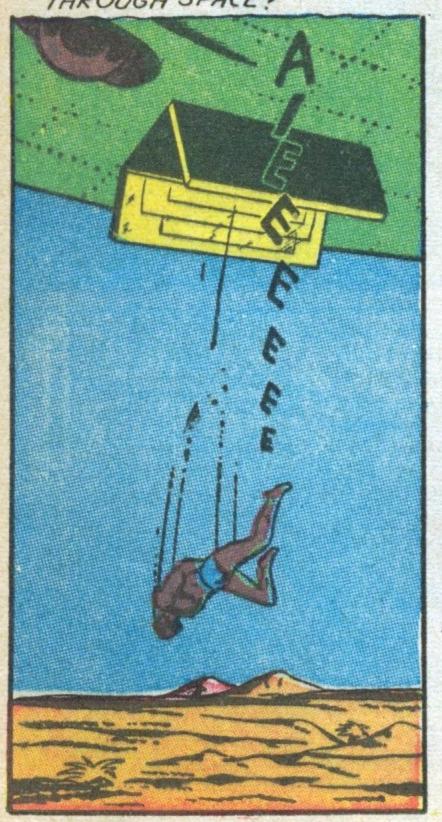








AND THE BODY OF A BOUND AND HELPLESS MAN TUMBLES THROUGH SPACE!











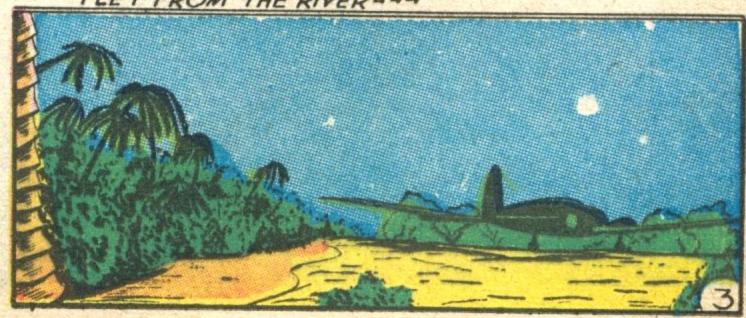


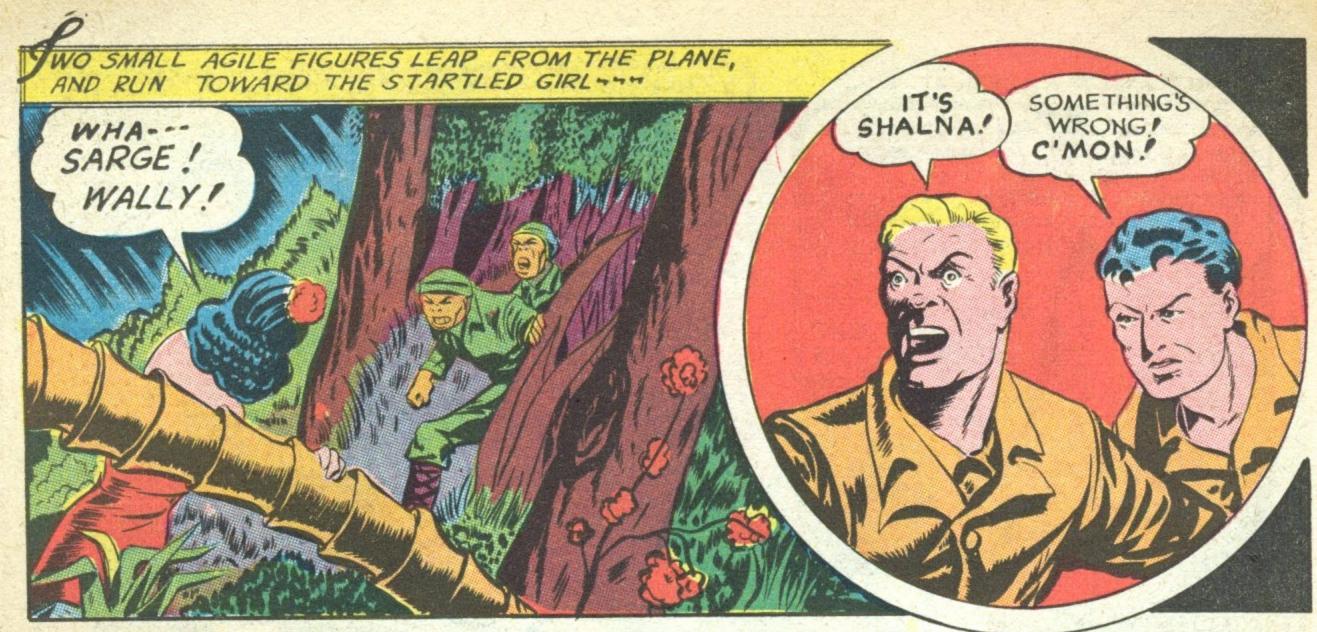






FEET FROM THE RIVER ---





















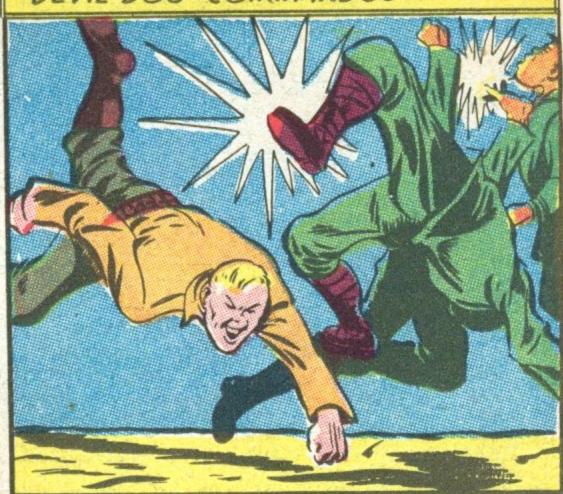




MINUTES LATER ---



THE FLYING FISTS OF TWO TOUGH DEVIL DOG COMMANDOS!



YOU MAY THINK ME INSANE, BUT
I INTEND TO RENDER YOU UNCONSCIOUS !-- THEN REMOVE YOUR HEART,
AND SEND IT TO YOUR PEOPLE! IT
WILL BE A LESSON -- A GOOD LESSON!











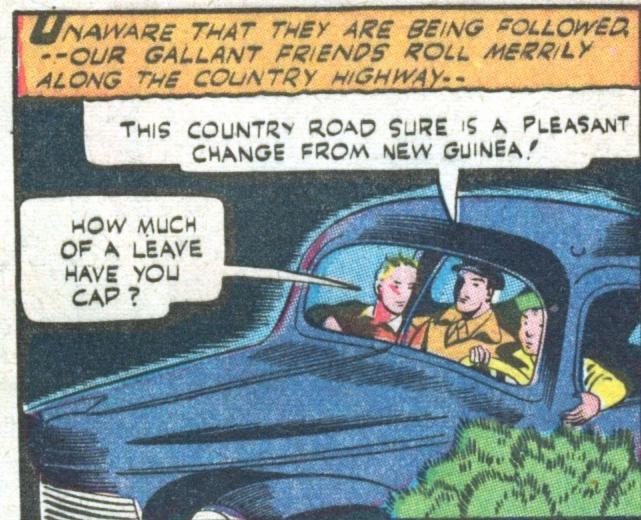




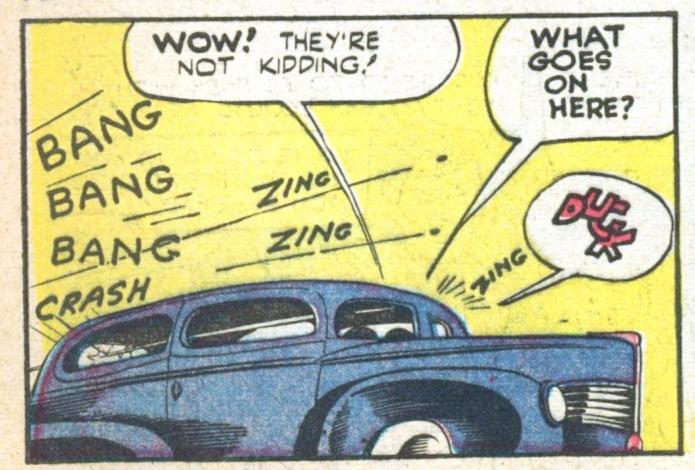




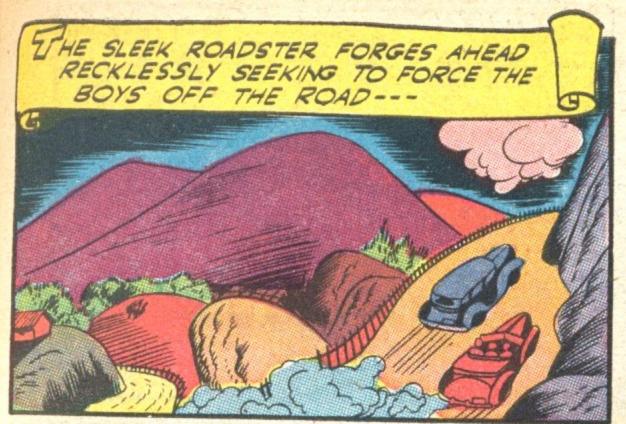




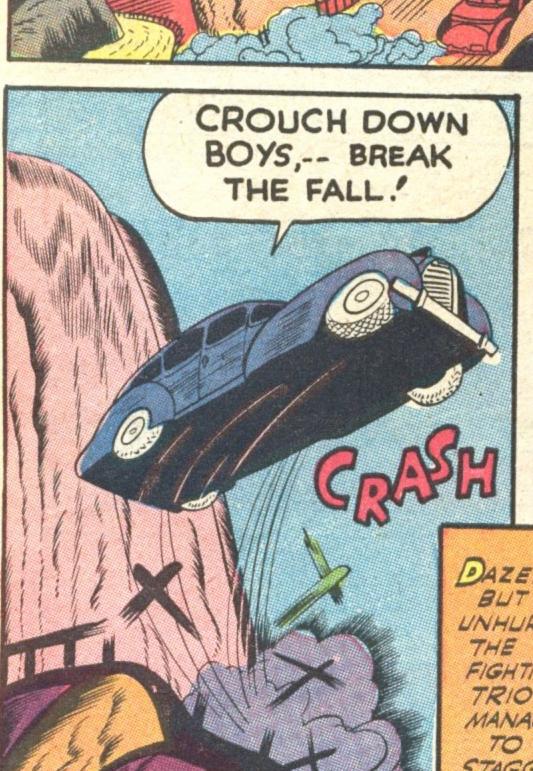












BUT, SUDDENLY, A

SUCCESSION OF FOUL

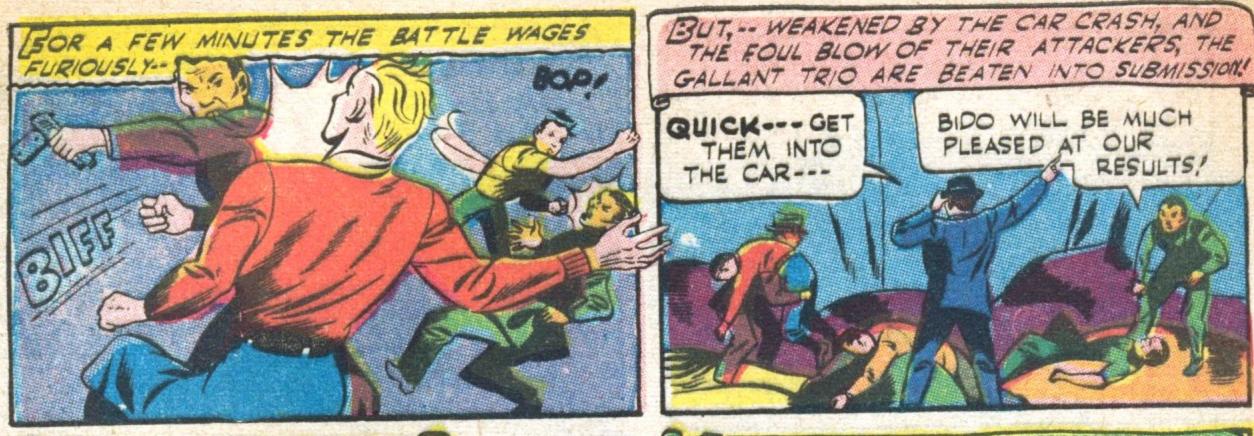


















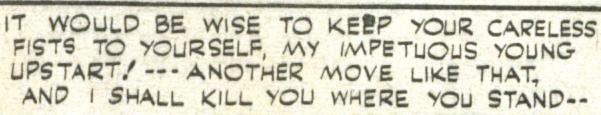










































AS WILLIAMIS' PLANE REARS IN TO ATTACK, THE NAZI SUB IS STRAFED BY A FIGHTER PLANE PILOTED BY LT. EARL H. STEIGER, OF BUFFALO, N.Y.











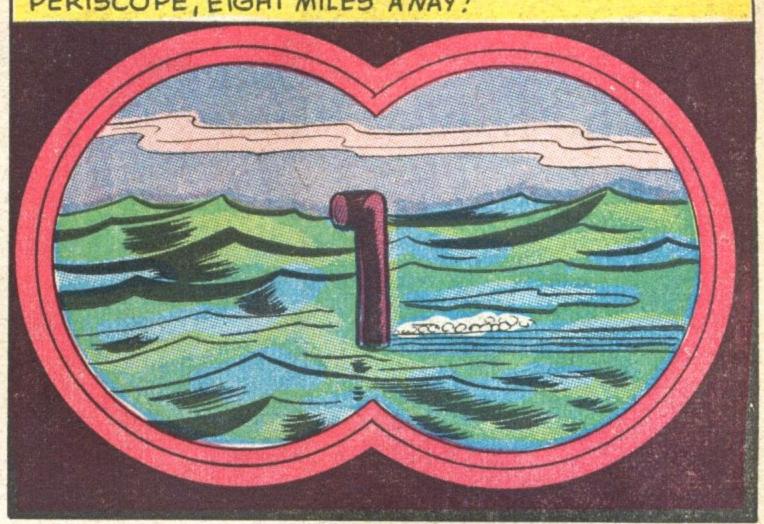




BUT THEN THE NAZI SUB GOES DOWN, HELPLESS AGAINST THE OVERPOWER-ING YANKEE ATTACK!



ON PATROL THE NEXT MORNING, WILLIAMS SPOTS A PERISCOPE, EIGHT MILES AWAY!





WITH AMAZING ACCURACY, PADEN DROPS A BOMB ON THE SUB!



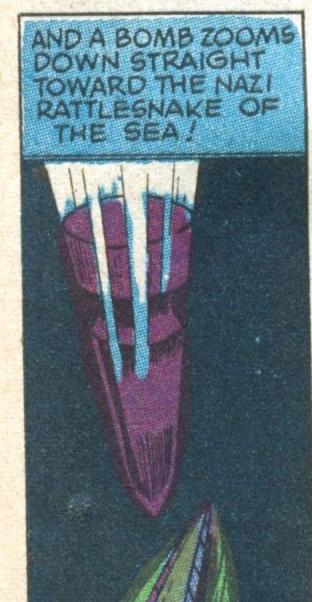
AND THE NAZI SHIP DISAPPEARS, TRAIL-ING OIL ---!











BOMB EXPLODES DIRECTLY BENEATH THE SUB, SPLINTERING THE SHIP INTO BITS!







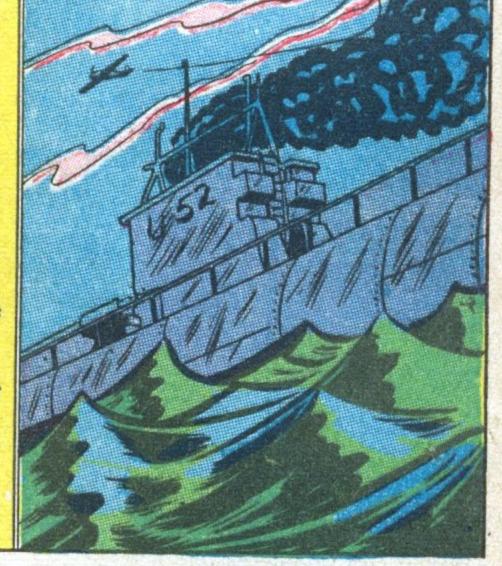




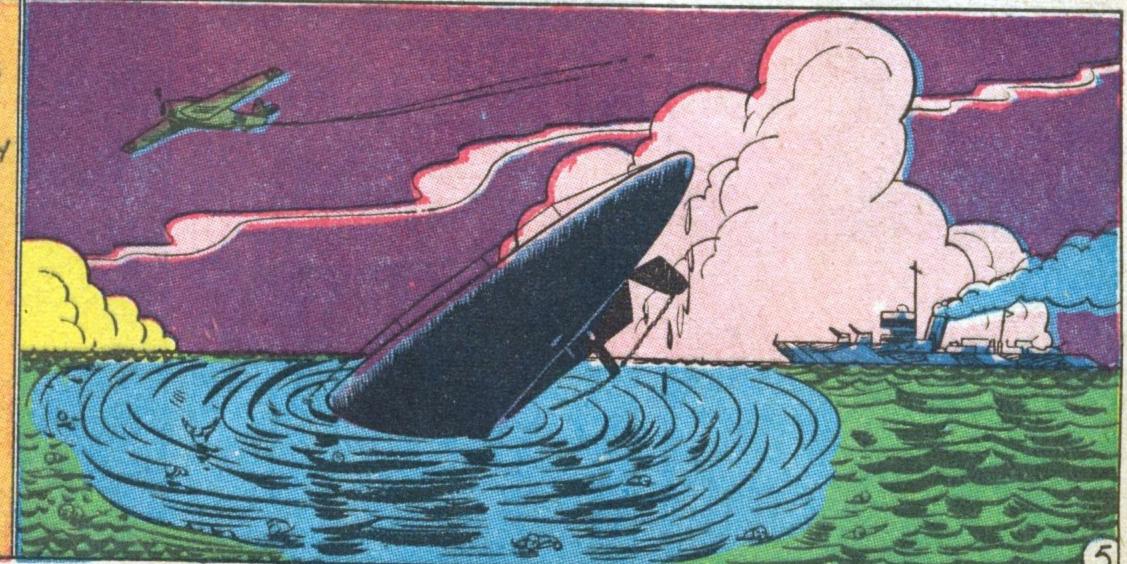




BIG BEGINS TO BEGINS TO BLACKE POURING FROM THE CONNING TOWER!



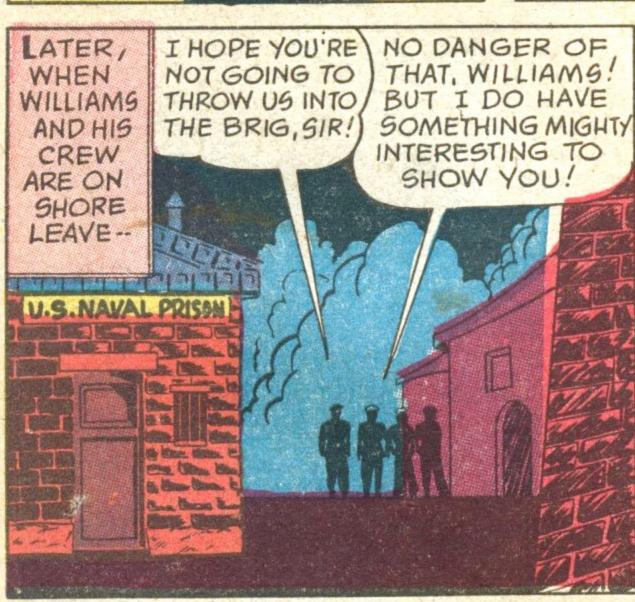
THIRTY -MEMBERS OF THE CREW DESPERATELY TRY. TO ESCAPE BEFORE THE SUBS SUCTION DRAGS THEM UNDER WATER!





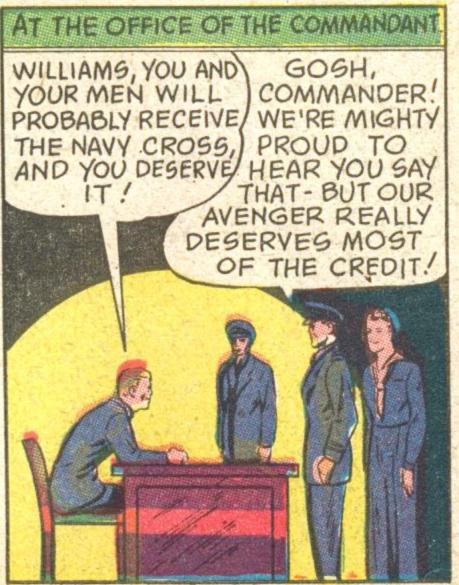












FOR THE FINEST
IN AIR ADVENTURE
CONICS---YOUR
BEST BET IS

AERO COMICS

- TOPS IN STORY!
- TOPS IN ART!
- TOPS IN ACTION!

ON SALE NOW ATY